



## H. David Nahai Water Quality Awards Overview

### **Awards Overview**

The H. David Nahai Water Quality Awards recognize extraordinary efforts to safeguard or restore water quality in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. The awards are given annually by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Award recipients are selected from nominations submitted by state and local governments, the business community, professional and trade associations, environmental and philanthropic organizations, community and neighborhood groups and individuals concerned about water quality. The 2006 Water Quality Awards will acknowledge accomplishments in water quality education/research, protection, restoration and excellence.

The awards are named in honor of Mr. H. David Nahai, the senior member and current Chair of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Mr. Nahai was first appointed to the Board in 1997 by Governor Pete Wilson. He was re-appointed in 2000 by Governor Gray Davis and in 2004 by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Mr. Nahai has served an unprecedented four terms as Board Chair, notably in 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2006.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board is a component of the California Environmental Protection Agency, sets regional water quality standards and enforces both federal and state clean water statutes. The Board is comprised of nine individuals, each of whom is appointed by the Governor, and a small professional staff, comprised mostly of scientists, engineers and geologists. The Board's geographic jurisdiction covers all of Los Angeles County and Ventura County and includes more than 11 million residents.

### **How the Water Quality Awards Program Works**

The Regional Board requests award nominations from all interested parties, including state and local governments, the business community, professional and trade associations, environmental and philanthropic organizations, community and neighborhood groups and individuals concerned about water quality. Nominations submitted by the application deadline are reviewed and evaluated by an awards panel comprised of the Regional Board Chair, selected board members and senior staff. The awards panel ranks each nominee based on the relevant award criteria. In each award category, the nominee with

the highest ranking is named the award recipient. Regional Board staff notifies all award recipients and individuals submitting nominations of the award panel's decision.

As the Regional Board's guest, each award recipient is invited to attend and be recognized during the annual Water Quality Awards Banquet. This year the banquet will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2006 at the New Otani Hotel, located in downtown Los Angeles. Those who wish to join the Regional Board in honoring the award recipients are invited and encouraged to purchase event tickets.

## **How to Apply for a Water Quality Award**

An award application is attached to this document. An electronic version of the application can be viewed and downloaded at the Regional Board's web site:

[www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/DNahai\\_Awards/Application.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/DNahai_Awards/Application.html)

### **Step 1: Review Award Categories and Evaluation Criteria**

- Applications should be submitted only for individuals, community or neighborhood groups, environmental or philanthropic organizations, business interests, government bodies or projects that reflect the award focus and evaluation criteria.
- An individual, group, organization, business interest, agency or project can be nominated for more than one award. However, a separate application must be submitted for each award.

### **Step 2: Complete a Nomination Application**

- You may nominate yourself or anyone who wishes to be recognized for their work protecting or restoring water quality.
- Activity descriptions should reflect award focus and evaluation criteria.
- Activity descriptions cannot exceed 600 words.
- Typed, double-spaced activity descriptions are recommended.
- Applicants may submit photographs, videos, newspaper articles and other support materials to supplement the activity descriptions. Support material is not subject to the 600-word limit.

### **Step 3: Submit a Nomination Application**

- Only complete applications submitted by the application deadline will be considered.
- Applications can be submitted electronically to:  
[lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov)
- Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to:

2006 Water Quality Awards  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, #200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

## **Nomination Application Deadline**

The deadline for submitting complete nomination applications is **August 31, 2006.**

Applications sent electronically or hand delivered to the Regional Board or postmarked by this date will be accepted. No nomination applications will be returned.